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with one-half of the reduced annuity to be payable after his or her death to a person, named at time of retirement, during the life of the named person.

(b) Any natural person may be designated as survivor under paragraph

(a)(2) of this section.

- (c) If the applicant for retirement elects an annuity without survivor benefit, each \$100 credited to his or her voluntary contribution account, including interest, purchases an additional annuity at the rate of \$7 per year, plus 20 cents for each full year, if any, he or she is over age 55 at date of retirement.
- (d) If the applicant for retirement elects an annuity with survivor benefit, each \$100 credited to his or her voluntary contribution account, including interest, purchases an additional annuity at the rate of \$7 per year, plus 20 cents for each full year, if any, he or she is over age 55 at date of retirement, multiplied by the following percentage:
- (1) Ninety percent of such amount if the named person is the same age or older than the applicant for retirement, or is less than 5 years younger than the applicant for retirement;
- (2) Eighty-five percent if the named person is 5 but less than 10 years younger;
- (3) Eighty percent if the named person is 10 but less than 15 years younger;
- (4) Seventy-five percent if the named person is 15 but less than 20 years younger;
- (5) Seventy percent if the named person is 20 but less than 25 years younger;
- (6) Sixty-five percent if the named person is 25 but less than 30 years younger; and
- (7) Sixty percent if the named person is 30 or more years younger.

Subpart E—Eligibility for Retirement

§831.501 Time for filing applications.

Employees or Members who are eligible for retirement must file a retirement application with their agency. Former employees or Members who are eligible for retirement must file a retirement application with OPM. The application should not be filed more than 60 days before becoming eligible for benefits. If the application is for

disability retirement, the applicant and the employing agency should refer to subpart L of this part.

[58 FR 49179, Sept. 22, 1993]

§831.502 Automatic separation; exemption.

- (a) When an employee meets the requirements for age retirement on any day within a month, he is subject to automatic separation at the end of that month. The department or agency shall notify the employee of the automatic separation at least 60 days in advance of the separation. If the department or agency fails through error to give timely notice, the employee may not be separated without his consent until the end of the month in which the notice expires.
- (b)(1) The head of the agency, when in his or her judgment the public interest so requires, may exempt a law enforcement officer or firefighter from automatic separation until that employee becomes 60 years of age.
- (2) The Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Defense, under such regulations as each may prescribe, may exempt an air traffic controller having exceptional skills and experience as a controller from automatic separation until that controller becomes 61 years of age.
- (c) When a department or agency lacks authority and wishes to secure an exemption from automatic separation for one of its employees other than a Presidential appointee, beyond the age(s) provided by statute, i.e., age 60 for a law enforcement officer or firefighter, age 61 for an air traffic controller, and age 62 for an employee of the Alaska Railroad in Alaska or an employee who is a citizen of the United States employed on the Isthmus of Panama by the Panama Canal Commission, the department or agency head shall submit a recommendation to that effect to OPM.
- (1) The recommendation shall contain:
- (i) A statement that the employee is willing to remain in service;
- (ii) A statement of facts tending to establish that his/her retention would be in the public interest;